

2012 | CENSUS *OF* AGRICULTURE

Specialty Crops

Puerto Rico

Volume 2 • Subject Series • Part 9

AC-12-S-9

Issued February 2015

United States Department of Agriculture
Tom Vilsack, Secretary
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Joseph T. Reilly, Administrator

Introduction

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The 2012 Census of Agriculture Specialty Crop report for Puerto Rico provides data that supplement the 2012 Census of Agriculture, Volume 1, Geographic Area Series, Part 52 publication (<http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/2012/>). Section 101 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. §1621 note) and amended under section 10010 of the Agricultural Act of 2014, Public Law 113-79 (the Farm Bill) defines specialty crops as “fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, and horticulture and nursery crops (including floriculture).” Eligible plants must be cultivated or managed and used by people for food, medicinal purposes, and/or aesthetic gratification to be considered specialty crops. This is the second time NASS has summarized and published the census of agriculture data for specialty crops.

AUTHORITY

The 2012 Census of Agriculture is required by law under the “Census of Agriculture Act of 1997,” Public Law 105-113 (Title 7, United States Code, Section 2204g). The law directs the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a census of agriculture every fifth year, covering the prior year.

FARM DEFINITION

The census definition of a farm for Puerto Rico is any place from which \$500 or more of agricultural products were produced and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the census year.

DATA COMPARABILITY

The data are comparable between the 2012 and 2007 censuses. Dollar figures are expressed in current dollars and have not been adjusted for inflation or deflation.

REFERENCE PERIOD

Crop production and sales are measured for the calendar year 2012.

TABLES

Table 1 shows the number of farms, acres harvested, value of sales, and the percent of the total value of crop sales accounted for by specialty crops for Puerto Rico.

RESPONDENT CONFIDENTIALITY

In keeping with the provisions of Title 7 of the United States Code, no data are published that would disclose information about the operations of an individual farm or ranch. All tabulated data are subject to an extensive disclosure review prior to publication. Any tabulated item that identifies data reported by a respondent or allows a respondent’s data to be accurately estimated or derived was suppressed and coded with a ‘D’. However, the number of farms reporting an item is not considered confidential information and is provided even though other information is withheld.

DATA PRODUCTS

The 2012 Census of Agriculture Specialty Crop publication and other census products are available on the NASS website at www.agcensus.usda.gov.

SPECIAL STUDIES AND CUSTOM TABULATIONS

Special studies such as the 2012 Census of Agriculture Specialty Crop publication provide supplemental information to the 2012 Census of Agriculture. Results are published on the Internet.

Custom-designed tabulations may be developed when data are not published elsewhere. These tabulations are developed to individual user specifications on a cost-reimbursable basis and shared with the public. *Quick Stats 2.0*, NASS's online database that allows data users to build customized queries, should be investigated before requesting a custom tabulation.

All special studies and custom tabulations are subject to a thorough disclosure review prior to release to prevent the disclosure of any individual

respondent data. Requests for custom tabulations may be submitted via the Internet from the NASS home page, by mail, or by e-mail to:

DataLab
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Room 5307
1400 Independence Ave, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250 – 2054
or
Datalab@nass.usda.gov

Table 1. **Specialty Crops – Puerto Rico: 2012**

Crop	Farms ¹	Cuerdas harvested	Value of sales (dollars)	Percent of crop sales ²
All crops	9,367	134,162	271,320,069	100.0
All specialty crops	8,933	91,892	250,548,902	92.3
Coffee ³	4,478	33,213	29,273,215	10.8
Pineapples ³	42	330	1,905,743	0.7
Plantains ³	3,628	22,719	80,505,103	29.7
Bananas ³	1,474	6,639	12,106,293	4.5
Pulse crops	750	1,545	2,356,580	0.9
Root crops.....	1,242	2,631	8,191,970	3.0
Fruits and coconuts ³	1,926	14,959	31,541,191	11.6
Vegetables	1,528	7,014	47,134,996	17.4
Nursery crops.....	657	2,842	37,533,811	13.8

¹ Data are for farms with sales of specialty crops.

² May not add due to rounding.

³ Cuerdas in production.